



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

December 13, 2001

S. 1631

A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to direct the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct a study to determine the resources that are needed for development of an effective nationwide communications system for emergency response personnel

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on November 8, 2001*

S. 1631 would authorize the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to conduct a study in cooperation with the Federal Communications Commission, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Department of Defense, to determine a plan for developing a nationwide communications system for emergency response. This plan would need to include a review of the use of digital and analog spectrum. The bill would require FEMA to submit a report no later than 90 days after enactment to the appropriate Congressional committees.

Based on information from the affected agencies and costs of similar reports, CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost less than \$500,000 in 2002, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. S. 1631 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 1631 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Julie Middleton. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.